

Art Unit 2151
Serial No. 09/918,666

Reply to Office Action of 10/19/2005
Attorney Docket No.: K35A0872

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful and thoughtful examination of the present application. By way of summary, Claims 1, 2, 10-14, 22, 23, 31-35, 43, 44 and 52-56 were pending in this application. In this response, the Applicants have amended Claims 1, 12, 22, 33, 43 and 54, and have canceled Claims 10, 31 and 52. Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 11-14, 22, 23, 32-35, 43, 44 and 53-56 remain pending for consideration.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 11-14, 22, 23, 32-35, 43, 44 and 53-56 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,923,648 (Dutta). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the Dutta reference fails to teach every step and limitation of the pending claims.

For example, independent Claim 1 recites "(a) receiving a first component of a document over a first communication channel; (b) receiving a second component of the document over a second communication channel." Dutta does not disclose these two steps.

The Examiner has cited Column 1, lines 28-32 of Dutta, which states that "[t]his invention relates to message store-and-forward communication systems . . . which operate typically over a predetermined, limited number of available communication channels." The Examiner also points out that Dutta teaches that "periods of a length of at least one frame time period are selectively allocated on any of the return channels of the channel group." Col. 4, ll. 19-21. However, these two passages do not suggest that a first component of a document is received over a first communication channel and a second component of the document is received over a second communication channel. These passages simply teach the potential use of multiple channels.

Indeed, Dutta further describes that only one channel is used by the mobile terminal to send user messages: "[t]he hub stores the user information and selectively formats it as the second traffic component of data into the frames for transmission over

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the TDM forward channel." Col. 2, ll. 28-31 (emphasis added). Dutta teaches that "the control processor 127 of the mobile terminal 120 compiles user messages for transmission at a designated one of a number of available data rates over the designated return channel 162 or 163." Col. 10, ll. 47-50 (emphasis added). Dutta neither discloses nor suggests receiving a first component of a document over a first communication channel and receiving a second component of the document over a second communication channel.

The Examiner responds to these arguments in the Office action of October 19, 2005, stating that a "document at one end will be broken up into multiple components and transmitted as data via frames over a channel, wherein those frames are sent over multiple channels." Applicants disagree with the Examiner's characterization that multiple components of the same document are transmitted over multiple channels. The Examiner cites to Column 24, lines 59-60, as referring to "return channels [that] can also be used for sending messages." However, this passage does not teach or suggest receiving a first component of a document over a first communication channel and receiving a second component of the document over a second communication channel.

Independent Claim 1 has also been amended to recite "displaying the first component of the document before completion of the receipt of the second component of the document." This amendment to the Claim finds support throughout the originally-filed specification, including, for example, at page 6, lines 21-24, and at page 8, lines 9-14. Dutta does not disclose or suggest this limitation.

Independent Claims 22 and 43 are allowable for at least substantially the same reasons given above with respect to Claim 1. They too have been amended to recite "displaying the first component of the document before completion of the receipt of the second component of the document."

Independent Claim 12 now recites, among other limitations, "displaying the first component of the document before completion of the receipt of the second component of the document." Dutta does not disclose this step.

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Independent Claims 33 and 54, amended similarly to independent Claim 12, are allowable for at least substantially the same reasons given above with respect to Claim 12.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that every pending independent claim incorporates at least one limitation that is not taught or suggested by Dutta, and request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 11-14, 22, 23 and 32-35 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,029,045 (Picco). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the Picco reference fails to teach every step and limitation of the pending claims.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as previously pending were patentably distinguished over the Picco patent, the Dutta reference, or any combination thereof. Claims 1, 12, 22 and 33, however, have been amended in order to clarify the features of the Applicants' inventions. These claim amendments are not made for patentability purposes, and it is believed that the claims would satisfy the statutory requirements for patentability without the entry of such amendments. These independent Claims 1, 12, 22 and 33 have been amended to recite "displaying the first component of the document before completion of the receipt of the second component of the document." Picco clearly does not disclose this limitation.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that every pending independent claim incorporates at least one limitation that is not taught or suggested by Picco, and request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 2, 11, 13, 14, 23, 32, 34 and 35, 44, 53, 55 and 56 are dependent upon the above independent claims and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons given above.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and request reconsideration of the rejections. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees associated with this Communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1209.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 9, 2005

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